

Application No. 09/833,965

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to clarify that the present application is directed to an adhesive for bonding seams. Therefore, the claims have been amended to recite "a seam bonding adhesive." Support for this amendment can be found throughout the specification and claims, including at page 13, line 29. Therefore, no new matter has been added to the present claims.

Entry of the above amendments is respectfully requested.

Review and reconsideration on the merits are further requested.

Claims 1-17 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as anticipated by, or, in the alternative, under 35 USC §103(a) as obvious over Hasegawa, et al., or Helland, et al. In response, Applicants traverse the rejection.

The present application relates to a seam bonding adhesive comprising a resin selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl butyral, phenolic resins, epoxy resins and mixtures thereof, and a first carbon filler comprising a fluorinated carbon. Neither of the references teach or suggest the elements of the present claims.

Beginning with Hasegawa, et al., this reference teaches a developer composition. A developer is used in the electrostatographic arts along with a toner in order to develop electrostatic latent images. A developer does not have adhesive properties and does not bind seams as set forth in the present claims. Therefore, because Hasegawa, et al. does not teach or suggest an adhesive material, Applicants submit that the present claims are not anticipated by the reference.

In addition, Applicants submit that one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to turn to a reference disclosing a developer in order to provide an adhesive as claimed. Developer materials do not have adhesive properties at all. In fact, a developer must have anti-static properties so that the developer and toner do not attach to any of the components in the electrostatographic machine, such as the photoreceptor, transfer, fuser, or pressure member. It is important that the developer only adhere to the paper, which is the final print or copy substrate.

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The Examiner states that because toner adheres to paper, the developer has adhesive properties. However, the developer does not adhere completely to the paper until it is fused to the paper by passing the developed image placed on the paper between fusing and pressing members, wherein heat is applied from the fuser member and pressure is applied by the pressure member, thereby pressing and fusing the developed image to the paper. A developer composition does not adhere or bond a seam together. The present claims have been amended to clarify that the adhesive is a seam bonding adhesive. Therefore, Applicants further submit that the present claims are not anticipated nor rendered obvious in view of Hasegawa, et al.

Turning to Helland, et al., this reference, as with Hasegawa, et al., teaches developer compositions. Applicants repeat the above arguments as to why the present claims are not anticipated nor rendered obvious in view of Hasegawa, et al., because Helland, et al. teaches a developer composition similar to the one disclosed in Hasegawa, et al. Briefly, developers are adhesive materials with anti-static properties, and not adhesive materials. In addition, Helland, et al., does not teach a seam bonding adhesive as claimed.

In view of these arguments and in view of the arguments copied in the recitations above regarding Hasegawa, et al., Applicants submit that the present claims are not anticipated nor rendered obvious in view of Helland, et al.

Again, Applicants point out that developer compositions are not seam bonding compositions, as they do not bond seams together. Instead, developer compositions are placed on paper and are fused and pressed against that paper by the use of fusing and pressure members. Again, Applicants have amended the claims to recite "a seam bonding adhesive." Therefore, Applicants submit that the claims are not anticipated nor rendered obvious in view of Helland, et al.

In view of the above arguments and amendments, Applicants submit that all claims should now be in condition for allowance. Early indication of allowability is respectfully requested.

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No additional fee is believed to be required for this amendment. However, the undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney (or agent) hereby authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025. This also constitutes a request for any needed extension of time and authorization to charge all fees therefor to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, s/he is hereby authorized to call Applicant's Attorney, Annette L. Bade, at telephone number (310) 333-3682.

Respectfully submitted,


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